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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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ABRIDGED LIST OF FEDERAL LAWS APPLICABLE TO AGRICULTURE  
(Including Reference to Former Functions)

(December 7, 1796: George Washington in his last message to Congress recommended the use of public funds in aid of agriculture and the establishment of boards to collect and diffuse agricultural information. January 11, 1797: A committee of the House of Representatives recommended the establishment of a national agricultural board or society. The House established a committee on agriculture in 1820 and the Senate one in 1825. In 1828 Congress authorized the publication of a manual, prepared by Richard Rush, Secretary of the Treasury, and containing the best available information on the culture and manufacture of silk, and also of Count Von Hazzi's Treatise on the Rearing of Silk-Worms.)

March 3, 1839: Congress authorized the Commissioner of Patents to expend the sum of \$1,000 for the collection of agricultural statistics and for other agricultural purposes. (5 Stat. 354.)

May 15, 1862: A law establishing a Department of Agriculture under a commissioner, the general design and duties of which were to acquire and to diffuse among the people of the U. S. useful information on subjects connected with agriculture, in the most general and comprehensive sense of that work, and to procure, propagate, and distribute among the people new and valuable seeds and plants. (5 USC 511.)

July 2, 1862: The first Morrill Land-Grant College Act: Granted (origin of grants-in-aid) to each of the States an amount of public land equal to 30,000 acres for each Senator and Representative it had in Congress, or the equivalent in land script, proceeds from the sale of which were to be used for the endowment, support, and maintenance of at least one college where the leading subjects would be branches of learning related to agriculture and the mechanic arts. August 30, 1890: The second Morrill Land-Grant College Act: Provided further endowments for more precisely specified educational purposes, and also authorizing the establishment of colleges for Negroes in States or Territories where a distinction of race and color is made in the admission of students. March 4, 1907: The so-called Nelson Amendment: Appropriated \$25,000 to colleges of agriculture and mechanic arts with the provision that a portion of the funds might be used for the training of teachers of elementary agriculture. (7 USC 301-08, 321-28.)

June 16, 1880: The first provision of Congressional seed distribution appeared in the Appropriation Act of June 16, 1880 (21 Stat. 294), making appropriations for the fiscal year 1881. Appropriations for the purchase, etc., and distribution of valuable seeds, bulbs, etc., with provisions for allotment of an equal proportion thereof to Senators, Representatives, and Delegates to Congress for

Note: U. S. Code citations are to the 1946 Edition in the absence of code references, citations are to U. S. Statutes at Large.



distribution among their constituents, provisions of these successive acts varying in details from year to year, were made annually in the agricultural appropriation acts up to and including the fiscal year 1923. The provisions of the fiscal year 1923 may be found in the Act of May 11, 1922 (42 Stat. 516.) Congressional distribution of seeds, etc., was discontinued in the Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1924 (42 Stat. 1289.) It will be noted that seed distribution is provided for in the Organic Act establishing the Department of Agriculture. This act provides that the design and duties of the Department of Agriculture shall be to acquire and to diffuse among the people useful information on agriculture and to procure, propagate, and distribute new and valuable seeds and plants, and that the Secretary of Agriculture shall collect new and valuable seeds and plants, shall test and propagate them, and shall distribute them among agriculturists. Act of May 15, 1862 (12 Stat. 387.) This law still remains in effect (5 USC 511, 514.)

May 29, 1884: An act established the Bureau of Animal Industry intended to prevent the spread of contagious, infectious, and communicable diseases of domestic animals and live poultry. (7 USC 391.)

May 29, 1884: An act to prevent the exportation of diseased cattle.

(21 USC 113.) August 30, 1890: An act to suspend the importation of all or any class of livestock for a limited time when necessary to protect animals in the U.S. from infectious or contagious diseases and to set up quarantines of imported animals when need arises; the act also provided for the inspection of animals imported and those intended for export. (21 USC 101-07.) February 2,

1903: An act authorized regulation of the exportation and transportation of livestock, from any place in the U.S. where the Secretary of Agriculture has reason to believe communicable livestock diseases exist, to any other State, Territory, or the District of Columbia, or to foreign countries; and authorizing the Secretary to take such measures as he may deem proper to prevent the introduction into, or the dissemination within, the U.S. of communicable diseases of animals. (21 USC 112, 113, 120, 121.) March 3, 1905: An act empowered the

Secretary of Agriculture to quarantine any State or Territory or the District of Columbia when he determines that livestock therein are affected with any communicable disease, and prohibited the movement of livestock therefrom except upon compliance with regulations prescribed by him. (21 USC 123-124.) February

28, 1947: An act authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to cooperate with the Government of Mexico in the control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest. (21 USC 114b, 114c, 114d.) April 24, 1948: An act amended the

Act of May 29, 1884 and authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to establish research laboratories, including the acquisition of necessary land, buildings, or facilities, and also the making of research contracts under the authority contained in section 10(a) of the Bankhead-Jones Act of 1935, as amended by the Research and Marketing Act of 1946, for research and study, in the U.S. or elsewhere, of foot-and-mouth disease and other animal diseases which in the opinion of the Secretary constitute a threat to the livestock industry of the U.S. (21 USC 113a.)

March 2, 1887: The Hatch Agricultural Experiment Stations Act: Authorized the establishment, under the direction of the land-grant colleges, of stations in the several States to conduct experiments relating to agricultural subjects, these stations forming departments of the land-grant colleges. March 16, 1906: The Adams Act: Served the same general purposes as the Hatch Act, but emphasized original researches or experiments; no part of the Adams Act funds can be used for printing and only 5 percent for buildings or purchase of land. February 24, 1925: The Purnell Act provided a total of \$60,000 to each State; emphasized economic and social research and permitted expenditure of 10 percent for buildings and land; also provided for printing. June 29, 1935: The Bankhead-Jones Law: Provided for a Government allotment of \$5,000,000 for agricultural research, 60 percent of which is allotted to the State experiment stations; and 40 percent to the Secretary of Agriculture; funds are allotted to the States in an amount which bears the same ratio to the total amount to be allotted as the rural population of the State bears to the rural population of all States. To receive these funds each State must show an expenditure from State funds of equal amounts for agricultural investigation. These funds are to be used for "research into laws and principles underlying basic problems of agriculture in its broadest aspects." June 20, 1936: Extension of the benefits of Adams, Purnell, and Capper-Ketcham acts to the Territory of Alaska. August 28, 1937: An act extended the benefits of Section 21 of the Bankhead-Jones Act to Puerto Rico. (7 USC 362, 363, 365, 368, 377-79.)

February 9, 1889: A law made the USDA an executive department under supervision and control of a Secretary of Agriculture to be appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. (5 USC 512.)

October 1, 1890: An act transferred the meteorological work then carried on by the Army Signal Corps to the Department of Agriculture, and created the Weather Bureau. (15 USC 311.) April 11, 1940: Reorganization Plan IV transferred the Weather Bureau to the Department of Commerce, but authorized the Department of Agriculture to continue to make snow surveys and conduct research on (a) relationships between weather and crops, (b) long-range weather forecasting, and (c) relationships between weather and soil erosion.

(continued on next page)



March 3, 1891: An act authorized the President to reserve public lands as forest reserves (now called National Forests.) (16 USC 471 and 473.) June 4, 1897: An act containing the principal provisions governing the administration of all National Forests authorized the promulgation of rules and regulations and the establishment of service necessary in regulating their occupancy and use. (16 USC 471, 475-482, and 511.) February 1, 1905: An act placed such reservations under the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture. (16 USC 472.) March 1, 1911: An act created the National Forest Reservation Commission and authorized the acquisition, with the Commission's approval, of lands on the watersheds of navigable streams needed in regulating the flow of such streams or for the production of timber; it also authorized cooperation with States in protecting from fire private and State forest lands located on the watersheds of navigable waters. (16 USC 480, 500, 513-519, 521, 552, and 563.) June 11, 1916: An act authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into cooperative agreements with the several States, Territories, or counties for the survey, construction, and maintenance of roads and trails within or partly within National Forests and appropriated \$1,000,000 for each fiscal year to and including June 30, 1926, in all \$10,000,000 to be available until expended for this purpose. (16 USC 503.) March 20, 1922: An act authorized exchange of National Forest land or timber for private land within exterior boundaries of National Forests. (16 USC 485.)

June 7, 1924: An act provided for an expanded program of cooperation with the States in forest-fire protection; for forest taxation and insurance studies; for cooperation with the States in furnishing forest-tree seeds and plants for re-foresting farm lands and in assisting their owners in establishing and improving forest growth thereon; and for the extension of the National Forests through the acquisition of lands by purchase or donation. (16 USC 564-568a, 515, 569, 570, 471, 499, and 505.) May 22, 1928: An organic act authorized all phases of forest and related research and the establishment of regional forest experiment station (16 USC 581-581i.) June 9, 1930: An act provided for expanded tree-planting operations on the National Forests. (16 USC 576-576b.) August 29, 1935: An act authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into cooperative agreements with State officials to acquire State forest lands. (16 USC 567a.) May 18, 1937 The Cooperative Farm Forestry Act provided for cooperation of the Secretary of Agriculture with the land-grant colleges and universities and State forestry agencies in the development of farm forestry in States and Territories. (16 USC 568b.) June 25, 1949: Amended the act generally by increasing amounts authorized to be appropriated. (16 USC 581h.) April 24, 1950: An act which removed some restrictions from certain types of contracts of the Forest Service. It also facilitated and simplified the work of the Service and allowed greater cooperation by the Service with other agencies. (16 USC 504, 555, 557, 571c, 572, 579a, 580c, 580l, 490, 504a.) August 25, 1950: An act authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to cooperate with the States to enable them to provide technical services to private forest land owners. (PL 729-81st Congress.)



March 2, 1897: An act, as amended, to control the importation of tea inferior to established standards and setting up a board of experts to prepare and submit to the Secretary of Agriculture standard samples of tea. The provisions of this act were carried out by the Food and Drug Administration which was transferred from the Department of Agriculture to the Federal Security Administration by Reorganization Plan IV. (21 USC 41-50.)

May 9, 1902: The adulterated and renovated butter act: Regulated the manufacture of these products under special taxes and provided inspection of establishments under authority of the Secretary of Agriculture, and the promulgation by him of such regulations as might be required. (26 USC 2320-26.) June 24, 1946: This act authorized the Secretary of Agriculture, through inspectors appointed by him, to inspect all milk, butter, butter oil, and other ingredients and facilities intended for use in the manufacture or processing of renovated butter, and to condemn all materials found unfit for human consumption. (26 USC 2325.)

June 3, 1902: An act made the Divisions of Soils, Forestry, and Chemistry into bureaus and combined the Divisions of Botany, Pomology, Vegetable Physiology and Pathology, Agrostology, and Experimental Gardens and Grounds into the Bureau of Plant Industry. (5 USC 524.)

March 3, 1905: The Insect Pest Act, as amended: Forbade interstate transportation of enumerated insect pests via any means, except for scientific purposes under such rules and regulations as are promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture. (7 USC 141-148.) January 31, 1942: The Mexican Border Act: Provided for the regulation by this Department of entries from Mexico of railway cars and other vehicles, baggage, and other materials which might carry insect pests and plant diseases, and for inspection, cleaning, and disinfection of such vehicles and materials, and requiring fees to be charged which will cover service costs as nearly as may be. (7 USC 149.) September 21, 1944: An act authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to take such measures either independently or in cooperation with other agencies for the control and eradication of insect pests and plant diseases. (7 USC 147a.) June 17, 1949: This act amended the act of 1944 by broadening the scope of control. (7 USC 147a(a).)

June 29, 1906: The Twenty-eight Hour Law: Provided for care of animals in transit, regulating interstate transportation of animals, confinement, unloading for rest, water, and feeding. (45 USC 71-74.)

June 30, 1906: Food and Drugs Act (34 Stat. 768): Superseded by Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetics Act of June 25, 1938. (52 Stat. 1040.) April 11, 1940: Reorganization Plan IV transferred the Food and Drug Administration to the Federal Security Agency, except the functions relating to the Insecticide Act and the Naval Stores Act, which were administered by the Agricultural Marketing Service.

March 4, 1907: The Meat Inspection Act: Authorized the examination of animals, meat, meat-food products, used in interstate or foreign commerce, and inspection of slaughter and packing establishments, and regulating exportation of livestock. (21 USC 71-96.)

May 23, 1908: Dairy Products Exports Act: Promoted commerce with foreign countries in connection with dairy products by preventing the exportation of such products unless the same have been inspected and certified. (21 USC 94a.)



May 23, 1908: An act provided that 25 percent of all moneys received by the National Forests shall be paid to the States or Territories for the benefit of public schools and public roads of the counties in which the National Forests are situated. (35 Stat. 260.)

August 3, 1912: An act established a standard barrel for apples and was followed, August 31, 1916 by the Standard Container Act of 1916 (15 USC 251-56), establishing standards for climax baskets, and one establishing standards for hampers and round-stave baskets. May 21, 1928, The Standard Container Act of 1928 (15 USC 257a-257i) with regulations for enforcement within reasonable tolerances.

August 20, 1912: The Plant Quarantine Act: Regulated importation and interstate shipment of plants, plant products, and other commodities to prevent introduction into and spread within the U. S. of injurious plant diseases and insect pests, and established the Federal Horticultural Board. (7 USC 151-167.)

July 31, 1947: Amended Plant Quarantine Act of 1912 by adding new proviso to Sec. 1 which authorizes Secretary to limit the entry of nursery stock from foreign countries and; when necessary, require that it be grown under post-entry quarantine to determine whether it is infested or infected with plant pests not discernable at port of entry inspection, and if found to be infested or infected to prescribe remedial measures deemed necessary to prevent spread of plant pest. (7 USC 154.)

March 4, 1913: An act prohibited preparation and sale in any place under the jurisdiction of the U. S. of worthless or harmful viruses, serums, toxins, and analogous products for domestic animals, or importation or interstate shipment of same. Secretary is authorized to regulate preparation of such products for sale in the District of Columbia, Territories, or other places under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government, and for interstate shipment. (21 USC 151-58.)

May 8, 1914: The Agricultural Extension or Smith-Lever Act: Provided for cooperative work with land-grant colleges in giving instruction and practical demonstrations in agriculture and home economics to persons not in attendance; also for imparting such information through field demonstrations, publications, and otherwise, whereupon farm management and farmers' cooperative demonstration work carried on by the Bureau of Plant Industry was discontinued. The Federal Government appropriated funds to carry out the purposes of the act, which had to be matched by equal sums appropriated by legislature of States in question, or provided by the State, county, college, local authority, or individual contributions from within each State for maintenance of work; Federal funds granted to the States in the proportion which the rural population of each State bore to the total population of all the States. May 22, 1928: The Capper-Ketcham Act: Provided funds for agricultural extension work, required that at least 80 percent of all appropriations under this act totaling \$17,280,000 be utilized for payment of salaries of extension agents in counties and, for the first time, recognized junior work with boys and girls. June 29, 1935: Section 21 of the Bankhead-Jones Act of 1935, provided an ultimate final appropriation of \$12,000,000 annually to be allotted to the several States under the same terms and conditions as Smith-Lever Act of May 8, 1914, except that \$980,000 shall be paid to the several States and Hawaii in equal shares, and the remainder to the States in proportion that the farm population of each bears to the total population of the several States--no offset of State money required. June 20, 1936: Extension of Capper-Ketcham Act to Territory of Hawaii. (7 USC 341-8, 386c.)



June 6, 1945: An act amended the Bankhead-Jones Act of June 29, 1935, by providing for further development of agricultural extension work as contemplated by the Smith-Lever Act of May 8, 1914, through provision of additional sums, \$4,500,000 for the fiscal year 1946, \$8,500,000 for 1947, and \$12,500,000 for 1948, and the years thereafter, and providing that \$500,000 of the sum appropriated for each fiscal year is to be available for special allotment. (7 USC 343c, 343d-i.)

June 30, 1914: A law established the Bureau of Crop Estimates, later, by law of March 3, 1921, the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates, later still combined with the Office of Farm Management and Farm Economics to become the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, established by law of May 11, 1922. (7 USC 411.)

June 17, 1916: The Federal Farm Loan Act established Federal Land Banks to provide farmers with a source of federally supervised cooperative credit by making long-term loans to farmers who use their farms as security, and creating the Federal Farm Loan Board, and the Federal Farm Loan Bureau. (12 USC 641.) March 4, 1923: The Agricultural Credits Act of 1923: Authorized the chartering of 12 Federal Intermediate Credit Banks which make loans to and discounts for Production Credit Associations, Banks for Cooperatives, State and national banks, Agricultural Credit Corporations, livestock-loan companies and similar financing institutions. (12 USC 1151-1322.) July 2, 1926: An act authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a division of cooperative marketing to disseminate to cooperative associations, economic, statistical, and historical information regarding cooperative associations in the U.S. and foreign countries. (7 USC 452-453.) March 27, 1933: Executive Order 6084 consolidated into one independent agency, the Farm Credit Administration, all Federal agencies and activities providing or supervising farm credit in the U. S. at that time. (12 USC 1148.) May 12, 1933: Emergency Farm Mortgage Act of 1933: Authorized the Land Bank Commissioner to make first and second mortgage loans to assist in the emergency refinancing of farm mortgage debts. (12 USC 1016.) June 16, 1933: The Farm Credit Act: Authorized creation of 12 Production Credit Corporations and the establishment of Production Credit Associations and of 13 Banks for Cooperatives. (12 USC 1131-48.) January 31, 1934: An act created the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation to supply funds for Land Bank Commissioner loans and to make loans to, and buy the bonds of, the 12 Federal Land Banks. (12 USC 1020.) June 30, 1945: An act amended the Federal Farm Loan Act, the Emergency Farm Mortgage Act of 1933, and the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation Act by enlarging the scope of such acts. This act, among other things, authorized the Federal Land Banks to make loans up to 65 percent of the normal value of farms mortgaged. (12 USC 712, 745, 751-753, 672, 771, 781, 857, 861, 874, 880, 1016, 1020b, 1020d) July 12, 1946: An act provided for repayment to the Secretary of the Treasury of excess subscriptions to the capital stock of the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation, such excess to be held until additional subscriptions to its capital are necessary. Further, the act provided that the Farm Credit Administration be authorized to make a study of ways and means of availability to farmers through the Federal Land Bank System of loans similar to those made by the Land Bank Commissioner through the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation. July 12, 1946: This act extended the Emergency Farm Mortgage Act, as amended, to July 1, 1947. (12 USC 1016, 1020b.)

August 11, 1916: The U. S. Warehouse Act, as amended: Provided for the licensing by the Secretary of Agriculture of warehouses in which agricultural commodities are stored for shipment in interstate commerce. (7 USC 241-73.)



August 11, 1916: The U. S. Grain Standards Act, as amended: Authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to investigate the handling, grading, and transportation of grain, and to promulgate standards of quality and condition for corn, wheat, rye, oats, barley, flaxseed, soybeans, and such other grains as in his judgment needed such action. (7 USC 71-87.)

August 11, 1916: The U. S. Cotton Futures Act: Placed a tax on each pound of cotton involved in any contract of sale of cotton for future delivery upon exchange, unless specified types of contracts are used. (26 USC 1090-1106.)

July 3, 1918: The Migratory Bird Treaty Act: Prohibited the hunting of migratory birds and their shipment except under regulations issued by the Secretary of Agriculture, and involving the provisions of a convention between the U. S. and Great Britain for the protection of migratory birds concluded August 16, 1916. This was followed by the Migratory Bird Conservation Act of February 18, 1929, (16 USC 715) as amended, which established the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, with the Secretary of Interior as Chairman, and Secretary of Agriculture, as a member, which may acquire lands recommended by him as necessary for the conservation of migratory birds. (16 USC 703-11.)

August 15, 1921: The Packers and Stockyards Act: Regulated the business practices of packers in interstate commerce and of stockyard owners or operators, and the commission merchants and others operating at yards posted by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to the act, and prohibited unreasonable, unfair, unjustly discriminatory, and deceptive practices and devices. (7 USC 182-229.)

November 9, 1921: The Federal Highway Act, as amended: Authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to direct payments to the States by the Secretary of the Treasury on a specified basis for the construction of public highways. September 5, 1940: An act authorized highway appropriation to be administered by Secretary of Agriculture and Federal Works Administrator; also provided for the survey, construction, reconstruction, and maintenance of development roads and trails within or adjacent to the National Forests and of forest roads of primary importance to the State or community. (23 USC 1-25.)

August 31, 1922: The Honey Bee Act: Regulated the importation of adult honey bees into the U. S. (7 USC 281-282.)

September 21, 1922: The Grain Futures Act: Controlled transactions in grain involving the sale thereof for future delivery; later amended by the Commodity Exchange Act of June 15, 1936 (49 Stat. 1491), which regulated the exchanges, commission merchants, and brokers, who deal in future contracts covering a considerable number of agricultural commodities, and provided for the elimination of questionable market practices such as: Excessive speculation, use of contracts designed to mislead or defraud customers, wash sales, cross trades, fictitious sales, dealings by unregistered futures commission merchants or unregistered brokers, and so on. (7 USC 1-17.)

March 3, 1923: The Naval Stores Act: Provided for the establishment by the Secretary of Agriculture of official standards for rosin and turpentine, required that all rosin and turpentine shipped in interstate commerce be sold under or by reference to such standards, and prohibiting deceitful practices in the sale of naval stores. (7 USC 91-99.) June 16, 1938: Authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to utilize regional associations, under the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, and other Government agencies in administering Naval



Stores Conservation Programs. (7 USC 91-99.)

March 4, 1923: The Filled Milk Act: Declared filled milk an adulterated article of food injurious to the public health and its sale a fraud on the public. (21 USC 61-63.)

March 4, 1923: The U. S. Cotton Standards Act: Provided for the establishment of quality standards for cotton, forbade the use of other than official standards in transactions in interstate commerce; required publication of prices or quotations determined in or in connection with such transactions, and authorized an inspection service. (7 USC 51-65.)

May 29, 1924: An act established the Bureau of Dairying, later Bureau of Dairy Industry, for the investigation of the dairy industry and the dissemination of information promoting it. (7 USC 401.)

February 12, 1927: The Import Milk Act: Designed to prevent the importation into the U. S. of milk and cream which do not comply with health requirements specifically designated therein. (21 USC 141-49.)

March 3, 1927: The Produce Agency Act: Made it a criminal offense for any person receiving fruits, vegetables, melons, dairy or poultry products, or perishable farm products in interstate commerce, for or in behalf of another, to fail truly and correctly to account for the same, or to make false reports or statements relating to the handling or disposition of same. (7 USC 491-97.)

March 3, 1927: Cotton Statistics Act, as amended: Authorized the collection and publication of statistics of the grade and staple length of cotton and also provided classification and news service for producer groups authorized for cotton improvement. (7 USC 471-476.) August 8, 1946: Amendment to section 5 of the act entitled "An act authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to collect and publish statistics of the grade and staple length of cotton." (7 USC 475.)

March 4, 1927: The Federal Caustic Poisons Act: Regulated interstate and foreign commerce in dangerous caustic or corrosive substances sold or exchanged in commerce, and prevented misbranding. (15 USC 401-11.)

January 14, 1929: Tobacco Statistics Act, as amended: Provided for the collection and publication of statistics of tobacco and authorized the Secretary of agriculture to establish standards for the classification of tobacco. (7 USC 501-508.)

June 15, 1929: An act established the Federal Farm Board to promote the effective merchandising of agricultural commodities in interstate and foreign commerce and to place agriculture on a basis of economic equality with other industries. (12 USC 1141.)

June 18, 1929: An act provided for a census of agriculture and livestock to show the acreage of farm land, the acreage of principal crops, and the number and value of domestic animals on farms and ranges of the country. (13 USC 201 et seq.)



June 5, 1930: An act established a Foreign Agricultural Service to acquire information regarding the quality, competition, and demand for agricultural products, and the production, marketing, and distribution of such products in foreign countries. (7 USC 542.)

June 10, 1930: The Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, as amended: Required the licensing of commission merchants, dealers, and brokers handling fresh fruits and vegetables in interstate commerce, and declared specified types of unfair conduct unlawful. (7 USC 499a-499i.) June 15, 1950: An act amended the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, 1930, insofar as licensing of commission merchants, dealers or brokers, and the authority of the Secretary to promulgate rules and regulations in carrying out the Act. It also made provision for the depositing of funds and license fees under the Act. (7 USC 499c, 499d, 499e, 499s.)

June 17, 1930: Tariff Act of 1930, Sec. 201, Par. 1606: Permitted the importation, duty free, by citizens of the U. S., for breeding purposes of animals, except black or silver foxes, if pure breed and registered in a book of record recognized by the Secretary of Agriculture for that breed; and Sec. 306 which prohibited the importation of animals or fresh, chilled, or frozen meats from foot-and-mouth and rinderpest infected countries, and of meats which were unfit for human food or which did not comply with regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture. (19 USC 1201; 46 Stat. 672.)

March 2, 1931: An act designed to eradicate and control predatory animals injurious to agriculture, horticulture, forestry, animal husbandry, wild game animals, fur-bearing animals, and birds, also for protecting domestic animals through suppression of rabies and tularemia in predatory and other wild animals. (7 USC 426.)

May 12, 1933: The Agricultural Adjustment Act, later amended: Enacted to establish and maintain such balance between the production and consumption of agricultural commodities, and such marketing conditions therefor, as would reestablish prices to farmers at a level that would give farm commodities parity, or a purchasing power with respect to articles that farmers buy, equivalent to the purchasing power of the farm commodity in a base period of August 1909-July 1914, except for potatoes and tobacco for which the base period was August 1919-July 1929. (7 USC 601-71.) June 29, 1945: An act repealed section 3 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, as amended, relating to hops. (7 USC 608c-i.) July 3, 1948: Agricultural Act of 1948: The act amended Section 22 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, re-enacted by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, in order to maintain the effectiveness and force of this act and/or any other act dealing with a similar program or operation of the Department of Agriculture. (7 USC 1282 note)

June 10, 1933: The Export Apple and Pear Act: Protected the reputation of American-grown apples and pears in foreign markets by preventing deception or misrepresentation as to the quality of such produce. This act also required inspection and certification by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. (7 USC 581-589.)



March 23, 1935: Transfer of Soil Erosion Service in Department of Interior to the Department of Agriculture. pursuant to powers in Executive Orders 6252, August 19, 1933, and 6929, December 26, 1934. April 27, 1935: Soil Erosion Act: Established the Soil Conservation Service to prevent soil erosion, thus preserving natural resources, controlling floods, maintaining the navigability of rivers and harbors, and carrying out other public purposes. The Service was authorized to conduct investigations and research, carry out preventive measures on Federal lands or by cooperative agreement with agencies and persons controlling other lands, and contribute services, equipment, money or materials in connection with such operations. (16 USC 590a.) February 29, 1936: Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act: Continued and extended Soil Erosion Act of 1935, sections 7 to 17 of which authorized an agricultural conservation program in which the emphasis shifted from temporary adjustment to soil conservation and improved farm-management practices; it included provisions for apportionment of acreage allotments and payments to landlords, tenants, and share-croppers for carrying out soil-building and soil-conserving practices. (7 USC 608-11, 612b, 612c, 624, 1301, 1372, 1385, 1391; 16 USC 590a-590q.) July 25, 1946: An act extended the period within which Secretary of Agriculture may carry out the purposes of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act by making payments to agricultural producers. (16 USC 590h.) July 26, 1947: Virgin Islands' Soil Conservation and Farm Loans: Extended Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to Virgin Islands. (16 USC 590q(a).)

April 30, 1935: Establishment of the Resettlement Administration by Executive Order 7027, pursuant to act of April 8, 1935, for administering projects involving resettlement of destitute or low-income families from rural and urban areas, including establishment, maintenance, and operation of communities in rural and suburban areas; to initiate and administer a program on soil erosion, stream pollution, seacoast erosion, reforestation, and flood control; and to make loans to finance the purchase of farm lands and necessary equipment by farmers, farm tenants, croppers, or land laborers. December 31, 1936: Transfer of Resettlement Administration to USDA by Executive Order 7530. August 14, 1946: Farmers Home Administration Act of 1946: Provided authority and directions with respect to the liquidation of resettlement projects and rural rehabilitation projects for resettlement purposes. (7 USC 1015.)

June 29, 1935: Bankhead-Jones Act: Authorized Secretary of Agriculture to conduct research into basic laws and principles of agriculture, provided for similar work by experiment stations, established a special USDA research fund. It provided a total appropriation of \$980,000 to be paid annually in equal shares to the States and ultimately \$1,500,000 additional, allotted annually to each of the several States, "in the proportion which the total population of each State ...bears to the total population of all the States." (7 USC 427.) August 14, 1946: This act amended Title I of the Bankhead-Jones Act and provided for further research into basic laws and principles relating to agriculture to improve and facilitate the marketing and distribution of agricultural products. (7 USC 427j.) July 31, 1947: Amended Title I of the act so that not less than 20 percent of the funds appropriated, in lieu of those authorized to be appropriated, for general research be used by State agricultural experiment stations to conduct USDA-approved marketing and research projects. (7 USC 427j.)

August 23, 1935: The Tobacco Inspection Act: Regulated transactions involving tobacco and established standards and grades by uniform classification and inspection procedures in order to control unwarranted price fluctuations. (7 USC 511a-q.)



August 24, 1935: "Section 32": Appropriated for each fiscal year beginning with 1936, 30 percent of the gross receipts from duties collected under the customs laws during the calendar year preceding each fiscal year to encourage the exportation and domestic consumption of agricultural commodities and products. (7 USC 612c.) July 3, 1948: Title III dealt with the availability and disposition of Section 32 funds. (7 USC 612c.)

May 20, 1936: The Rural Electrification Act of 1936: Established the Rural Electrification Administration and provided for loans to promote rural electrification and use of electric power. (7 USC 903.) September 21, 1944: The Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 provided new authority for Reconstruction Finance Corporation to make loans to Rural Electrification Administration, beginning with the fiscal year 1945, at 1 3/4 percent per annum, and provided that prior loans be adjusted at the same rate. It also provided that loans to borrowers be made at 2 percent per annum and for adjustment of interest rates on outstanding loans at the same rates. Extended from 25 to 35 years the period of loans under the act. (7 USC 903, 904, 905.) December 23, 1944: An act authorized the Rural Electrification Administration to make loans to cooperative associations to repay or refinance loans from the Tennessee Valley Authority. (7 USC 904.) June 29, 1948: This act added municipalities to rights enjoyed by cooperative associations. (7 USC 904.) October 18, 1949: An act which amended the REA act generally, and made provisions for telephone loans. (7 USC 901-924.)

June 22, 1936: The Flood Control Act, as amended: Placed Federal investigation and improvements of rivers and other waterways for flood control and allied purposes under the jurisdiction of the War Department and Federal investigations of watersheds and measures for retarding runoff and waterflow and the prevention of soil erosion, under the direction of the Secretary of Agriculture. (33 USC 701.) December 22, 1944: An act authorized various Department of Agriculture postwar projects in connection with Flood Control. (33 USC 701a-i.)

June 24, 1936: The Peanut Statistics Act, as amended: Provided for the collection and publication of statistics on peanuts. (7 USC 951-957.)

June 3, 1937: The Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act: Designed to establish and maintain orderly marketing conditions for agricultural commodities in interstate commerce and to establish prices to farmers at a level that would provide parity, as well as protect the interests of consumers. This act authorized the establishment of quotas or allotments for the sale of certain commodities and penalties for those exceeding quotas set by the Secretary of Agriculture, and it reenacted certain provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933. (7 USC 601-671.) August 1, 1947: Marketing Agreements and Orders: Amended the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933, as reenacted and amended by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, to make possible, under a marketing agreement or order, establishment and maintenance of minimum standards of quality, maturity grading, and inspection requirements for fruits and vegetables, even though prices of the applicable commodities are above parity. It permitted the levy and collection of assessments during periods when regulatory provisions of marketing agreement or orders are inoperative, and authorized the expenditure of funds for any purpose which the Secretary might determine to be appropriate; also authorized the requirement of compulsory inspection under a marketing agreement or order. (7 USC 602, 608c, 610.) July 3, 1948: Title III amended the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act with respect to marketing agreements and orders. (7 USC 602(1), 608c, 672.)



July 22, 1937: The Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act: Authorized the making of loans to farm tenants to enable them to become owners, also to laborers, share-croppers, etc., upon acceptance of a scientific farm management plan such as to enable a diligent farm family to carry on farming successfully in the locality. Provision was also made for rehabilitation loans to eligible individuals to enable them to purchase such livestock, supplies, and equipment as would help them rehabilitate themselves as self-subsistent farmers, loans to be secured by lien on crops, chattel mortgages, or assignments from sale of farm products. (7 USC 1000-29.) August 11, 1945: An act authorized the War Food Administrator and the Secretary of Agriculture to adjust boundary disputes by settling claims to certain so-called Sebastian Martin grant lands in the State of New Mexico which were administered under Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act of July 22, 1937. (7 USC 1011 note.) July 26, 1947: Virgin Islands' Soil Conservation and Farm Loans: Extended Titles I and II of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act to the Virgin Islands. (7 USC 1028.)

August 28, 1937: An act to assist in providing facilities for water storage and utilization in the arid and semiarid areas of the U. S. The Secretary was directed to formulate and keep current a program of projects, to construct and to sell or lease various facilities, to cooperate with other agencies as deemed necessary, and to obtain options upon and acquire lands, rights, or interests therein or rights to the use of water. (16 USC 590r et seq.) August 11, 1939: The Wheeler-Case Act: Authorized water conservation in Great Plains and in arid and semiarid areas under the Department of Interior, with the Department of Agriculture participating in certain respects. (16 USC 590y.) April 11, 1940: Certain functions of the Soil Conservation Service relating to soil and moisture operations conducted on Department of Interior lands were transferred to the Department of Interior. (16 USC 590(a) note.) October 14, 1940: On any project undertaken pursuant to the foregoing provisions, expenditures for the construction; maintenance, operation, rehabilitation or financial assistance of any such project shall not exceed \$50,000 of Federal funds. (16 USC 590z-5.) June 10, 1948: By this act, \$50,000 was struck and \$100,000 was inserted in lieu thereof. (16 USC 590z-5.)

February 16, 1938: The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended: Provided for the orderly marketing of agricultural commodities through the establishment of acreage allotments and marketing quotas on cotton, wheat, corn, tobacco, rice, and peanuts, the making of loans by Commodity Credit Corporation on agricultural commodities, and the establishment of four Regional Research Laboratories to find new uses and markets for agricultural products and byproducts. (7 USC 1281-1407.) February 6, 1942: This act amended the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, and provided for the adjustment of marketing equities and acreage allotments where farm land was acquired for defense purposes. (7 USC 1313, 1314, 1344.) July 7, 1943: A joint resolution amended the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, with relation to the marketing of burley and flue-cured tobacco. (7 USC 1312, 1313 note.) March 31, 1944: A joint resolution amended the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, to regulate further interstate and foreign commerce in tobacco. (7 USC 1312, 1313 note.) February 28, 1945: An act modified the rules for establishing acreage allotments under the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, and sections 7 and 17 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended, so as to permit the Secretary of Agriculture to credit cotton, wheat, or peanut acreages for war years where the farm's production history was not normally representative because



of production of war crops or absence in military service. (7 USC 1334, 1344, 1358 note.) July 28, 1945: A joint resolution further regulated national marketing quotas for fire-cured and air-cured tobacco for the marketing years 1946-47, and 1948-49, and authorized the Commodity Credit Corporation, beginning with the 1945 crop, to make available loans or other price support at specified rates for fire-cured and dark air-cured tobacco. (7 USC 1312(a), 1313.) February 19, 1946: An act amended the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, with relation to the marketing of burley tobacco. (7 USC 1313 note, 1314(a).) July 24, 1946: An act related to cotton marketing quotas under the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended. A joint resolution provided that, in view of the critical shortage of fats and oils and protein feeds, cotton marketing quotas be not proclaimed for the marketing year beginning August 1, 1947, and no National, State, county, or farm acreage allotments for cotton for the 1947 crop be established. (7 USC 1344.) July 24, 1946: A joint resolution provided that, in view of the critical shortage of high protein foods and feeds, and fats and oils, peanut marketing quotas be not proclaimed for the peanut crop produced in 1947, and no National, State, or farm acreage allotments for this 1947 crop be established. (7 USC 1357, 1359.) August 1, 1947: Peanut Marketing Quotas: Amended the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938; simplified and strengthened the administration of the peanut-marketing quota provisions of the Act; eliminated the necessity of determining normal yields of individual farms except in cases of violations of the quota regulations; increased the penalty for marketing excess peanuts from 3 cents to a rate equivalent to 50 percent of the basic price support rate (the same penalty rate as now provided for wheat, cotton, and corn); provided for reductions in allotments in the year following the infractions; and eliminated the provision of existing law whereby the farmer could avoid payment of the penalty by delivering excess peanuts to an agency designated by the Secretary. (7 USC 1358, 1359.) July 3, 1948: Title II amended the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, with respect to parity prices and normal supplies in relation to price supports. (7 USC 1301 et seq.) March 31, 1950: An act amended the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 concerning cotton and peanut acreage allotments and marketing quotas. (7 USC 1344, 1358, 1359, 1363 note.) June 16, 1950: An act amended the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, regarding the national acreage allotments for rice. These provisions were made inapplicable to nonirrigated rice planted not in excess of three acres, and to rice produced outside the continental United States. (7 USC 1353.)

February 16, 1938: The Federal Crop Insurance Act: Authorized insurance against loss of wheat crops. (7 USC 1501-1504, 1505-1518.) July 21, 1941: An act amended the Federal Crop Insurance Act by authorizing insurance against loss on cotton also and increased the annual appropriation to \$12,000,000. (7 USC 1516.) July 12, 1943: The Agricultural Appropriation Act of 1944: Prohibited the use of this appropriation for insurance of wheat or cotton crops planted subsequent to July 31, 1943. (57 Stat. 392.) December 23, 1944: An act amended the Federal Crop Insurance Act and authorized insurance on wheat, cotton, and flax, commencing in 1945 and trial insurance on certain other crops. (7 USC 1508.) August 1, 1947: Experimental Basis for Crop Insurance: Amended the Federal Crop Insurance Act so as to limit, beginning in 1948, insurance of not more than 200 counties in the case of wheat, 56 counties in the case of cotton, 50 counties each in the case of corn and flax, and 35 counties in the case of tobacco; provided for insurance in 1948 on two additional commodities in not to exceed 20 counties each, and on as many as three additional commodities each subsequent year in not to exceed 20 counties each, provided that the counties selected were to be repre-



sentative of the several areas where the agricultural commodity insured was normally produced, except those areas in which the income from such commodity constituted an unimportant part of the total agricultural income of the area; provided for trying any plan or plans of insurance adapted to the insured commodity; and for the purpose of encouraging private insurance companies to re-enter the field of "all-risk" insurance, provided for the reinsurance of private insurance companies in not to exceed 20 counties. Other provisions dealt principally with management and administration. (7 USC 1502, 1505, 1506, 1507, 1508) August 25, 1949: An act expanded the scope of the Federal Crop Insurance Program generally. (7 USC 1504 note, 1504(a), 1504(b), 1505(c), 1506(h), 1507(a), 1508(a), 1508(b), 1508(c), 1518.)

April 25, 1939: Reorganization Plan No. 1 placed the Bureau of Public Roads in the Federal Works Agency and the Farm Credit Administration, the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation, and the Commodity Credit Corporation in the Department of Agriculture.

May 9, 1939: Reorganization Plan No. II placed the Bureau of Biological Survey in the Department of Interior and the Rural Electrification Administration in the Department of Agriculture. A portion of foreign agricultural service in the Department of Agriculture was transferred to the State Department.

August 9, 1939: The Federal Seed Act: Regulated foreign and interstate commerce in specified agricultural seeds and prohibited unfair practices. (7 USC 1551-1610.)

April 2, 1940: Reorganization Plan No. III combined the Division of Marketing and Marketing Agreements of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation into the Surplus Marketing Administration in the Department of Agriculture.

April 4, 1940: The Schwellenback Act: Provided for the delegation of regulatory functions by the Secretary of Agriculture (i.e., the issuance of orders, etc., after notice and hearing, which have force of law.) (5 USC 516-a.)

October 8, 1940: An act authorized operators of county public grain warehouses, if they lack sufficient space to accommodate all depositors, to store storage grain, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture without the prior cancellation of such country receipts, to other warehouses. (7 USC 608.)

March 11, 1941: The Lend-Lease Act: Provided for the lease, loan, etc., of war materials, including agricultural commodities or articles in the interest of the defense of the United States. (22 USC 411-19.) April 16, 1945: An act extended the Lend-Lease Act to June 30, 1949. (22 USC 412.)

July 1, 1941: An act authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to support a price for the producers of any nonbasic agricultural commodity at 85 percent of the parity or comparable price therefor through commodity loan, purchase, or other operations, when he finds it necessary to encourage the production of such commodity. By the act of October 2, 1942, the rate was increased from 85 to 90 percent. By the act of June 30, 1944, the rate on cotton was increased to 92½ percent, and by the act of October 3, 1944, the rate on cotton was again increased to 95 percent. (15 USC 713, 713a-1, 713a-4, 713a-8.)



December 18, 1941: The First War Powers Act, 1941: Authorized the coordination of executive bureaus, offices, etc., by the President for national defense and the successful prosecution of the war, and exempted war contracts from certain restrictions upon authorization of the President. (50 App., USC 601-622.)

December 23, 1941: An act abolished the Virgin Islands Homestead Authority and transferred the administration of the Homesteads Project in the Virgin Islands from the Virgin Islands Government to the Department of Agriculture. (55 Stat. 857.)

February 23, 1942: Executive Order 9069, consolidated certain agencies within the Department of Agriculture into the Agricultural Marketing Administration, the Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, and the Agricultural Research Administration.

March 5, 1942: An act, as amended, authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to administer a program for the developing of guayule and other rubber-bearing plants. (7 USC 171.)

June 22, 1942: An act provided for the inspection of quality and condition of farm produce received in interstate commerce. (7 USC 414.)

December 11, 1942: An act provided for domestic control of production and distribution of the opium poppy and its products, and required USDA agencies to assist and advise the Treasury Department upon request. (21 USC 188.)

March 26, 1943: Executive Order 9322: Consolidated certain agencies within the Department of Agriculture into an Administration of Food Production and Distribution, and provided for the further centralization and delegation of authority with respect to the production and distribution of food in the War Food Administration. April 19, 1943: Executive Order 9334: Consolidated certain bureaus within the Department of Agriculture into a War Food Administration, and transferred certain powers, functions, and duties of Secretary of Agriculture to War Food Administrator as a further step in centralizing and delegating authority with respect to distribution and production of food. October 28, 1943: Executive Order 9392: Transferred certain powers, functions, and duties of the Secretary of Agriculture to the War Food Administrator. June 30, 1945: Executive Order 9577: Transferred the functions, duties, and powers of the War Food Administrator to the Secretary of Agriculture.

July 8, 1943: An act authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to adjust titles to lands acquired by the U. S. subject to his administration, custody, or control within 10 years after acquisition of such lands. (5 USC 567.)

March 29, 1944: An act authorized the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Interior to establish cooperative sustained-yield units on forest land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary establishing the unit. (34 USC 1115.)

June 22, 1944: The Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, as amended: Provided for guaranty of loans to veterans for the purchase, upon approval by the Administration of Veterans' Affairs, of farms and farm equipment. This act also amended the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act by making veterans eligible for the benefits included therein. (38 USC 693 et seq), June 30, 1945: An act enlarged the scope of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944. (38 USC 694b.)



October 3, 1944: The Surplus Property Act of 1944, as amended: Provided for the disposition of surplus property. (50 App. USC 1611-1646.) June 30, 1948: An act abolished the War Assets Administration and transferred its functions to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, Department of the Air Force, and the Treasury Department. (50 App. USC 1614a note.)

October 3, 1944: The War Mobilization and Reconversion Act of 1944: Established the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, to be headed by a Director, making the Office of Contract Settlement, the Surplus Property Board, and the Retraining and Reemployment Administration parts of this office; created an advisory board to advise with the Director and to include members who have had experience in business, labor, or agriculture, and a Retraining and Reemployment Administration to supervise and direct the activities of all executive agencies, except the Veterans' Administration, relating to retraining, reemployment, vocational education, and vocational rehabilitation; provided for advances to State unemployment funds in certain cases; authorized the Federal Works Agency to make loans or advances to States and political subdivisions to aid in financing investigations and other actions preliminary to the construction of public works. (50 App. USC 1651-1678.)

December 20, 1944: An act authorized and directed the Secretary of Agriculture to compromise, adjust, or cancel indebtedness arising from loans and payments made or credit extended to farmers under the provisions of several laws and programs administered by the Department. (12 USC 1150-1150c.)

June 23, 1945: An act continued subsidy payments and purchases and sale operations affecting, among other things, meat, butter, and flour. (15 USC 604 note.)

September 27, 1945: Executive Order 9630: Defined additional functions, duties, and powers of the Secretary of Agriculture, among others, relating to the procurement of war material abroad.

April 30, 1946: An act transferred to the Secretary of Agriculture all functions relating to the breeding, raising, producing and marketing of domestically raised fur-bearing animals or products thereof, which functions were previously under the Department of Interior. (7 USC 433, 434.)

June 4, 1946: The National School Lunch Act: Authorized the payment of funds to the states to assist in the establishment, maintenance, operation, and expansion of nonprofit school lunch programs. Such assistance is available only for schools of high-school grade or under. The act was to be administered and controlled by the Secretary of Agriculture, and the payment of sums authorized by this act would be contingent upon like or similar funds being made available for this program by the respective states. The Secretary of Agriculture was authorized to establish nutritional standards to be met by participating schools. (Public Law 396 - 79th Cong.) (42 USC 1751.)

June 11, 1946: The Administrative Procedure Act: Embodied procedures for Government departments and agencies in the exercise of their rule-making and quasi-judicial functions. The act was designed to provide for publicity of information fairness, in administrative operation, and adequacy of judicial review. It provided that departmental action be conducted according to established and published procedures in order to effect the efficient operation of Government,



and at the same time protect the rights of such individuals as may be involved. The act did not amend nor limit additional requirements imposed by statute or otherwise recognized by law. (5 USC 1001.)

July 30, 1946: An act authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to continue administration on and ultimately liquidate Federal rural rehabilitation projects, and for other purposes. (40 USC 436, 437, 438.) May 3, 1950: Cited as "Rural Rehabilitation Corporation Trust Liquidation Act." Authorized and directed the Secretary to liquidate within 3 years, trusts under the transfer agreements with the several State Rural Rehabilitation Corporations. (40 USC 440-444.)

August 14, 1946: Farmers Home Administration Act of 1946: Simplified and improved credit services to farmers and promoted farm ownership by abolishing certain agricultural lending agencies and functions, by defining the lending powers of the Secretary of Agriculture, by authorizing Government insurance loans to farmers, by creating preferences for loans and insured mortgages to enable veterans to acquire farms, by providing additional specific authority and directions with respect to the liquidation of resettlement projects and rural rehabilitation projects for resettlement purposes. The act does not apply to the Tennessee Valley Authority. (7 USC 1015.) June 30, 1948: This act delayed the liquidation of mineral interests reserved to the U. S. as ordered by the FHA Act of 1946, until authorized by law. (7 USC 1001 note.)

July 15, 1949: The Secretary of Agriculture was authorized to extend financial assistance through the FHA to owners of farms or their tenants so that they may improve their living conditions by providing adequate farm buildings. (42 USC 1471-1483.)

August 14, 1946: Title II of the Research and Marketing Act, entitled "Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946:" Provided for (1) continuous research to improve the marketing, handling, storage, processing, transportation, and distribution of agricultural products; (2) cooperation among Federal and State agencies, producers, industry organizations, and others in the development and effectuation of research and marketing programs to improve the distribution processes; (3) an integrated administration of all laws enacted by Congress to aid the distribution of agricultural products through research, market aids and services, and regulatory activities, to the end that marketing methods and facilities may be improved, that distribution costs may be reduced and the price spread between the producers and consumer may be narrowed, that dietary and nutritional standards may be improved, that new and wider markets for American agricultural products may be developed, both in the U. S. and in other countries, to make it possible for the full production of American farms to be disposed of usefully, economically, profitably, and in an orderly manner. (7 USC 1621.)

February 28, 1947: An act authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to cooperate with the Government of Mexico in the control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest. (21 USC 114b, 114c, 114d.)

June 25, 1947: Forest Pest Control Act: Provided for the protection of forests against destructive insects and diseases. It authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct surveys on forest lands to detect and appraise infestations of forest insect pests and tree diseases, and to take measures against such pests and diseases. The act supplemented existing legislation. (16 USC 594(1) et seq.)



June 25, 1947: Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act: Regulated the marketing of economic poisons and devices. It made it unlawful to distribute, sell, or deliver in the U. S., or its Territories, or foreign countries, certain economic poisons, and made provision for the registration of such poisons. The Secretary of Agriculture was authorized to make rules and regulations for carrying out the provisions of the bill, and the bill provided for penalties of fine and imprisonment for violations thereof. The act also provided for seizure of such economic poisons, whether domestic or imported, and also exclusion of those imported. The provisions of the bill took effect upon enactment, except those pertaining to rodenticides and herbicides, 6 months after enactment, and as to insecticides and fungicides and other economic poisons, one year after enactment. This act repealed, 1 year after enactment, the Insecticide Act of 1910, approved April 26, 1910. (7 USC 135-135h.)

August 8, 1947: The Sugar Act of 1948: Reenacted the Sugar Act of 1937 with changes; extended the termination date from December 31, 1947 to December 31, 1952, and extended the sugar tax to July 1, 1953. Required the Secretary to estimate each year the sugar requirements of consumers in the continental U. S., taking into account various factors so as to provide a supply of sugar that will be consumed at prices which will not be excessive to consumers and which will fairly and equitably maintain and protect the domestic sugar industry. Established fixed quotas for domestic areas totaling 4,268,000 short tons (domestic beet 1,800,000; mainland cane, 500,000; Hawaii, 1,052,000; Puerto Rico, 910,000; Virgin Islands, 6,000), a fixed quota of 952,000 short tons for the Republic of the Philippines, and allotted to Cuba and full-duty countries the balance of the estimate of consumption requirements, with 98.64 percent allotted to Cuba and 1.36 percent to full-duty countries. Provided that any Philippine deficit be reallocated to Cuba (95 percent) and full-duty countries (5 percent) and that any deficit of any domestic area or Cuba be prorated to the other domestic areas and Cuba which are able to supply such deficits. Guaranteed for Cuba a minimum quota of 28.6 percent, equivalent to her share of the quota under the Sugar Act of 1937 at consumption levels at or above 6,682,670 short tons. Provided that, if the Cuban quota after reallocation of deficits would otherwise fall below 28.6 percent, the proration of the Philippine deficit to full-duty countries would be 1.36 percent instead of 5 percent and that any further addition needed to maintain the 28.6 percent quota would be deducted prorata from domestic quotas. Continued provision for suspension of quotas by Presidential proclamation in event of emergency but provided that the direct-consumption portion of the quotas shall not be subject to suspension unless the President specifically finds that an emergency exists which requires their suspension. Authorized the Secretary to withhold or withdraw any quota increase for any foreign country over that provided for such country under the Sugar Act of 1937 if such country denies fair and equitable treatment to U. S. nationals. Continued the conditional payment provisions of the Sugar Act of 1937 with respect to marketing limitations for producers, employment of child labor, the payment of fair and reasonable wages to sugar-beet and sugarcane workers, and the payment of fair prices for sugar beets and sugarcane purchased by processors who are also producers. Eliminated the farming-practice condition for payment. (7 USC 1100 et. seq.)



December 30, 1947: A joint resolution gave the President authority to make voluntary agreements and exercise certain controls to aid in curbing inflationary tendencies, to promote the orderly and equitable distribution of goods and facilities, and to aid in preventing maldistribution of goods and facilities which basically affect the cost of living or industrial production. This act authorized the President to delegate such authority to any department, agency, or officer in the Executive Branch of the Government. Executive Order 9280, December 5, 1942, centralized and delegated authority to the Secretary of Agriculture with respect to the production and distribution of food to meet war and essential civilian needs. December 30, 1947: Executive Order 9915: Delegated the authority vested in the President by 50 App. USC 1911 to the Secretary of Agriculture. This Order supplemented and added to the authority of the Secretary granted by Executive Order 9280, and was supplemented by Executive Order 9919.

April 3, 1948: Foreign Assistance Act: Provided for the furnishing of assistance to foreign countries; authorized the Secretary of Agriculture that whenever he determines that any quantity of any surplus agricultural commodity, acquired by the Commodity Credit Corporation in its price support program, be available for use in furnishing assistance to foreign countries, he shall so advise all departments, agencies, and establishments of the Government administering laws providing for the furnishing of such assistance or relief. (22 USC 1501 et. seq.)

April 21, 1948: An act transferred to the Secretary of Agriculture the Remount Service of the Quartermaster Corps, to be administered in such a manner as will best advance the livestock and agricultural interest of the United States. (7 USC 436, 437, 438.)

June 15, 1948: An act provided for the protection of potato and tomato production from the golden nematode. (7 USC 150.)

June 29, 1948: Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act: Provided a Federal charter for the CCC with capitalization set at 100 million dollars and borrowing authorization at 4 and 3/4 billion dollars. The Corporation was authorized to support prices of agricultural commodities through loans, purchases, payments, and other operations; to make available materials and facilities required in connection with the production and marketing of agricultural commodities; procure agricultural commodities for sale to other Government agencies, foreign governments, and domestic, foreign, or international relief or rehabilitation agencies, and to meet domestic requirements; to remove and dispose of or aid in the removal or disposition of surplus agricultural commodities; to increase the domestic consumption of agricultural commodities by expanding or aiding in the expansion of domestic markets or by developing or aiding in the development of new and additional markets, marketing facilities, and uses for such commodities; export or cause to be exported, or aid in the development of foreign markets for agricultural commodities; carry out such other operations as the Congress may specifically authorize or provide for. All Federal statutes applicable to the Delaware Corporation are applicable to the Corporation created by this act. (15 USC 714.)

June 28, 1950: An act increased the borrowing authorization to 6 and 3/4 billion dollars. (15 USC 714b.)



October 31, 1949: The Agricultural Act of 1949: Dealt with agricultural commodities in three groups: Basic commodities, designated nonbasic commodities, and other nonbasic commodities. It became effective, with respect to price support operations, for crops the marketing year or season which commenced on or after January 1, 1950, except that the Secretary might elect to make its provisions effective earlier if such action did not reduce the level of price support on programs begun or announced. Provided that for the years 1950, 1951, 1952, and 1953 the parity prices for any basic agricultural commodity shall not be less than its parity prices computed by existing formula. This resulted in the calculation of two parity prices for the next four years for the basic commodities and required the use of the higher of these two parity prices. The existing parity price applied to corn, cotton, wheat and peanuts, while the new parity price applied to tobacco and rice. Directed the Secretary to provide price support to certain designated non-basic agricultural commodities. Authorized the Secretary to make available price support to producers for any other agricultural commodity at any level up to 90 percent of parity. Provided that the price support level for any agricultural commodity may exceed 90 percent of parity, if the Secretary determines--after a public hearing--that the higher price support level is necessary to prevent or alleviate a shortage in agricultural commodities essential to national welfare, or in order to increase or maintain the production of an agricultural commodity in the interest of national security. (7 USC 1421-1449.) March 31, 1950: An act provided for the disposal of surplus potatoes to certain nonprofit organizations. It also discontinued the price support of potatoes after 1950 unless marketing quotas are in effect with respect to such potatoes. (7 USC 1431 note, 1450 and note.)

September 8, 1950: Defense Production Act of 1950: Authorized the President to establish a system of priorities and allocations for materials and facilities; authorized a requisitioning thereof; provided financial assistance for expansion of productive capacity and supply; provided for price and wage stabilization; provided for the settlement of labor disputes; strengthened controls over credit; and by these measures facilitated the production of goods and services necessary for national security. (PL 774 - 81st Cong., 2nd Session.) September 9, 1950: Executive Order 10161: Gave to the Secretary of Agriculture delegation of priority and allocation powers with respect to food, domestic distribution of farm machinery and commercial fertilizer; authority to requisition; and authority to support productive capacity and supply.



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